

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 - 13 (canceled)

14 (currently amended): An article comprising a matrix polymer and an intercalated clay comprising clay intercalated with polyether block polyamide copolymer, wherein said article comprises a base for an imaging member.

15 (original): The article of claim 14 wherein said matrix polymer comprises polyolefin.

16 (original): The article of claim 14 wherein said matrix polymer comprises poly(propylene).

17 (original): The article of claim 14 wherein said matrix polymer comprises polyester.

18 (original): The article of claim 17 wherein said polyester comprises polyethylene terephthalate.

19 (original): The article of claim 17 wherein said polyester comprises crystalline polyester.

20 (original): The article of claim 17 wherein said polyester comprises amorphous polyester.

21 (original): The article of claim 14 wherein said matrix polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyamides, polyimides, and polystyrene.

22 (original): The article of claim 14 wherein said article further comprises compatibilizer.

23 (original): The article of claim 22 wherein said compatibilizer comprises polyolefins.

24 (original): The article of claim 14 wherein said article has a surface resistivity of less than 10^{13} ohms per square.

25 (original): The article of claim 24 wherein said surface resistivity is between 10^8 and 10^{12} ohms per square.

26 (original): The article of claim 14 wherein the Young's modulus of the said copolymer and matrix polymer is enhanced by at least 10%.

27 (original): The article of claim 14 wherein the Young's modulus of the said copolymer and matrix polymer is enhanced by at least 20%.

28 (original): The article of claim 27 wherein said matrix polymer comprises polyolefin and said polyolefin comprises between 20 and 99.9 % by weight of said article.

29 (original): The article of claim 14 wherein said clay comprises smectite clay.

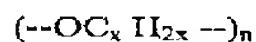
30 (original): The article of claim 14 wherein said clay comprises synthetic smectite clay.

31 (original): The article of claim 14 wherein the ratio by weight of clay to copolymer is between 1:99 and 99:1.

32 (original): The article of claim 14 wherein the polyether to polyamide molecular weight ratio is between 5:95 and 95:5.

33 (original): The article of claim 14 wherein said copolymer comprises blocks selected from the group consisting of polyamide 6, polyamide 12, polyethylene oxide, polyethylene glycol, polytetramethylene oxide, and polytetramethylene glycol.

34 (original): The article of claim 33 wherein in said polyether block comprises a structure



wherein x is from 2 to about 8, wherein the alkyl group is straight or branched, and

wherein n is from 2 to about 1000.

35 (original): The article of claim 14 wherein said imaging member article comprises a base for a photographic member.

36 (canceled):

37 (original): An article comprising polyether block polyamide copolymer and intercalated clay, wherein said article comprises a base for an imaging member.

38 (original): The article of claim 37 wherein said article has a surface resistivity of less than 10^{13} ohms per square.

39 (original): The article of claim 37 wherein the Young's modulus of the said copolymer is enhanced by at least 10%.

40 (original): The article of claim 37 wherein the Young's modulus of the said copolymer is enhanced by at least 20%.

41 (original): The article of claim 37 wherein said clay comprises smectite clay.

42 (original): The article of claim 37 wherein said clay comprises synthetic smectite clay.

43 (original): The article of claim 37 wherein the ratio by weight of clay to copolymer is between 1:99 and 99:1.

44 (original): The article of claim 37 wherein the polyether to polyamide molecular weight ratio is between 5:95 and 95:5.

45 (original): The article of claim 37 wherein said copolymer comprises blocks selected from the group consisting of polyamide 6, polyamide 12, polyethylene oxide, polyethylene glycol, polytetramethylene oxide, and polytetramethylene glycol.

46 (currently amended): The article of claim 37 wherein said imaging member article comprises a base for a photographic member.

47 (canceled):

48 (canceled):

49 (original): The article of claim 14 wherein in said polyamide block comprises the recurring unit represented by the general formula:

--NHCOR¹COHNR²--

wherein R¹ is an alkylene group of at least 2 carbon atoms or and arylene having at least 6 carbon atoms; and

R² is selected from R¹ and aryl groups.

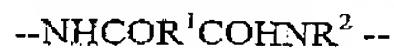
50 (original): The article of claim 37 wherein in said polyether block comprises a structure

(--OC_x H_{2x}--)_n

wherein x is from 2 to about 8, wherein the alkyl group is straight or branched, and

wherein n is from 2 to about 1000.

51 (original): The article of claim 37 wherein in said polyamide block comprises the recurring unit represented by the general formula:



wherein R¹ is an alkylene group of at least 2 carbon atoms ~~and~~ arylene having at least 6 carbon atoms; and

R² is selected from R¹ and aryl groups.

52 (new): An article comprising a matrix polymer and an intercalated clay comprising clay intercalated with polyether block polyamide copolymer, wherein said article comprises a base for a sports article.

53 (new): An article comprising a matrix polymer and an intercalated clay comprising clay intercalated with polyether block polyamide copolymer, wherein said article comprises a base for a medical implement.